laboratory Scale work for preparation of RU 486'. No application has been received by Government for its commercial use.

(d) Due precautions will be taken to prevent its misuse as and when permission for commercial production and distribution is given.

Centre Approves irradiated Food

3367. SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item appeared in the Observer dated 20th November, 1992 under the caption Centre approves irradiated food";

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto and the details of the proposal approved;

(c) the details approved and coverage of the items along with the implications; and

(d) the details of administrative and legislative action taken/proposed to be taken for implementation of the proposal in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D.K. THARA DEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) to (d) This Ministry has published draft rules on food irradiation for inviting public comments.

The draft rules provide irradiation of onion, spices and potatoes and contain details with respect to process of irradiation, licensing and labelling of irradiated food.

ICMR plants Over Fluoride Debate

3368. SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news report which appeared in the Indian Express dated 27th September, 1992 under the caption "ICMR plants over fluoride debate";

(b) if so, what is the reaction of Government in regard to the observations made therein and the facts of the matter, and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D.K. THARA DEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) Yes, Sir. The said news item 'ICMR paints over fluoride debate' appeared in the Indian Express dated 28th September, 1992.

(b) and (c) the decision in this regard can only be taken after a report has been submitted by the committee constituted to examine the matter.

Complaint Against Director, Department of Prevention of Food Adulteration, Delhi

3369. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that all the Food Inspectors and local (Health) authorities of the Department of Prevention of Food Adulteration, Delhi Administration, Delhi have complained on 21st October, 1992 against Director (PFA) for his unreasonable behaviour and his compulsion to follow illegal sampling procedure; and

(b) if so, action Government propose to take in this regard?